

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9294

INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

UNCLAS PORT AU PRINCE 0388

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, PFOR, FR, HA, PA, OAS

SUBJECT: FRENCH AND PARAGUAYAN AMBASSADORS PRESENT CREDENTIALS

1. PRESIDENT DUVALIER ACCEPTED THE CREDENTIALS OF FRENCH AMBASSADOR LOUIS DEBLE AND PARAGUAYAN AMBASSADOR MIGUEL SOLANO LOPEZ ON FEBRUARY 18, 1975. THE LATTER RESIDES IN WASHINGTON, WHERE HE REPRESENTS PARAGUAY AT THE OAS.

2. FRANCE - IN HIS PRESENTATION REMARKS, DEBLE REFERRED TO HAITI AS A COUNTRY DEAR TO ALL FRENCHMEN FOR HAVING PRESERVED HER LINGUISTIC AND CULTURAL HERITAGE. HE SAID IN RECENT YEARS BILATERAL RELATIONS, BUTTRESSED BY A PERMANENT FAC MISSION IN HAITI, HAVE EVOLVED INTO A "PRIVILEGED COOPERATION TO WHICH THE PRESIDENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC, LIKE THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, ARE PARTICULARLY ATTACHED.". HE REJOICED THAT THE MECHANISMS FOR FRANCO-HAITIAN COOPERATION ARE NOW IN PLACE, BUT ADDED THAT FURTHER GROWTH IN FRENCH AID DEPENDS UPON ACHIEVING SUCCESS WITH CAREFULLY WORKED OUT PROGRAMS. DEBLE ALSO SAID THAT PRIVATE SECTOR ECONOMIC INITIATIVES COULD BE AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT OF FRANCO-HAITIAN RAPPROCHEMENT.

3. DUVALIER RESPONDED WITH PRAISE FOR THE EFFORTS OF PRESIDENTS
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POMPIDOU AND GISCARD D'ESTAING, AND DEBLE'S IMMEDIATE PREDECESSORS, BERNARD DORIN (PAUP A-24, ITEM 10) AND PHILIPPE KOENIG, TO CAUSE

FRANCE TO UNDERTAKE EFFECTIVE COOPERATION AFTER YEARS OF HESITATION AND RETICENCE. HE LOOKED FORWARD TO THE GROWTH OF THEIR JOINT EFFORTS TO DEVELOP HAITI SPIRITUALLY, ECONOMICALLY AND SOCIALLY THROUGH THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF FRENCH AGENCIES SUCH AS FAC AND ACCT.

4. PARAGUAY - SOLANO LOPEZ ENDED HIS PRESENTATION REMARKS BY THANKING DUVALIER FOR GOH SUPPORT FOR RAOUL SAPENA PASTOR'S CANDIDACY FOR OAS SECRETARY GENERAL. DUVALIER IN TURN PRAISED PARAGUAY'S UNRELENTING EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF AN EFFECTIVE PAN-AMERICANISM, BUT DID NOT MENTION THE OAS ELECTION.

5. COMMENT - GOH PUBLICLY SUPPORTS CANDIDACY OF DOMINICAN FOREIGN MINISTER VICTOR GOMEZ BERGES, AND IT IS UNCLEAR WHAT PROMPTED SOLANO LOPEZ'S EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE CONCERNING SAPENA PASTOR'S CANDIDACY.

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